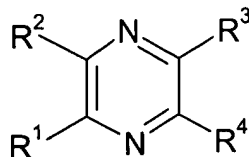


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of claims**

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



I

and or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt salts thereof, in which

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> independently represent phenyl, thienyl or pyridyl each of which is independently optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z;

Z represents a C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more: hydroxy; a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy group optionally substituted by one or more fluoro; a C<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl group; a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur; or by a group NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup> (in which R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> independently represent hydrogen, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonyl group), or Z represents a C<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy group (optionally substituted by one or more fluoro), hydroxy, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethylthio, trifluoromethylsulphonyl, nitro, a group NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup> (in which R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> independently represent hydrogen, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxycarbonyl group), mono or di C<sub>1-3</sub>alkylamido, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkylsulphonyl, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkylsulphonyloxy, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, carboxy, cyano, carbamoyl, mono or di C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl carbamoyl, sulphamoyl, acetyl, an aromatic heterocyclic group which is optionally substituted by one or more halo, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy, or Z represents ~~and~~ a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by

one or more C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl groups, hydroxy, fluoro, benzyl or an amino group -NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup> in which R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> independently represent H or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl ;

R<sup>3</sup> represents a group of formula X-Y-NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> in which X is CO or SO<sub>2</sub> and Y is absent or represents NH optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl group and R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> independently represent: a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy; an (amino)C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl- group in which the amino is optionally substituted by one or more C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl groups; a group (C<sub>3-12</sub>cycloalkyl)(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>g</sub>- wherein g is 0, 1, 2 or 3, and wherein the cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, hydroxy, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy; a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>r</sub>(phenyl)<sub>s</sub> in which r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and s is 1 when r is 0, otherwise s is 1 or 2, and the phenyl groups are optionally independently substituted by one or more groups represented by Z; naphthyl; anthracenyl; a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl groups, hydroxy, fluoro, trifluoromethyl, benzyl or an amino group -NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup> in which R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> independently represent H or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl; 1-adamantylmethyl; a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>Het in which t is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and the alkylene chain is optionally substituted by one or more C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl groups and Het represents an aromatic heterocyclic group optionally substituted by one, two or three groups selected from a C<sub>1-5</sub>alkyl group, a C<sub>1-5</sub>alkoxy group or halo; or R<sup>5</sup> represents H and R<sup>6</sup> is as defined above; or R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one nitrogen and optionally one of the following: oxygen, sulphur or an additional nitrogen; wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more ~~more~~ C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl groups, hydroxy, fluoro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, benzyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl or an amino group -NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup> in which R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> independently represent H or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>4</sup> represents a group of formula (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>COOR<sup>7</sup> in which n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and R<sup>7</sup> represents a C<sub>4-12</sub>alkyl group, a C<sub>3-12</sub>cycloalkyl group or a (C<sub>3-12</sub>cycloalkyl)C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl- group each of which is optionally substituted by one or more of the following: a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, group; fluoro, amino or hydroxyl group, or R<sup>7</sup> represents a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>a</sub>phenyl in which a is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and the phenyl group is optionally substituted by one or more groups

represented by Z which may be the same or different, or  $R^7$  represents a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more of the ~~of the~~ following: oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen; wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl ~~groups~~,  $C_{1-3}$ acyl ~~groups~~, hydroxy, amino or benzyl groups; or

$R^4$  represents a group of formula  $-(CH_2)_o-O-(CH_2)_p-R^8$  in which o and p independently represent an integer 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and each of the alkyl chains is independently optionally substituted by one or more  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl groups,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy groups or hydroxy and  $R^8$  represents a  $C_{1-12}$ alkyl group or a  $C_{1-12}$ alkoxy group or  $R^8$  represents phenyl optionally independently substituted by one or more Z groups or  $R^8$  represents an aromatic heterocyclic group or a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more of ~~one the~~ the following: oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen wherein each of these rings is optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z which may be the same or different; with the proviso that  $R^4$  is not a  $C_{1-3}$ alkoxymethyl group unless  $R^3$  represents a group of formula  $X-YNR^5R^6$  in which X is CO and Y is absent and  $R^5$  is H and  $R^6$  is a  $C_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl group substituted by one or more fluoro or X is CO and Y is NH and  $NR^5R^6$  together represent a piperidino group substituted by one or more fluoro; or  $R^8$  represents a  $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl group or a  $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkenyl group optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z which may be the same or different; or

$R^4$  represents a  $C_{4-12}$ alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, hydroxy, or amino groups; or

$R^4$  represents a group of formula  $-(CH_2)_qR^9$  in which q is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and  $R^9$  represents a  $C_{3-12}$ cycloalkyl group, a  $C_{3-12}$ cycloalkenyl group, phenyl, an aromatic heterocyclic group or a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more of ~~one the~~ the following: oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen wherein each of these rings is optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z which may be the same or different; or

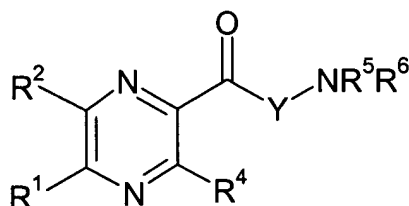
$R^4$  represents a group of formula  $-L^1R^9$  in which  $L^1$  represents a  $C_{2-6}$ alkenylene chain optionally substituted by one or more  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl groups and  $R^9$  ~~s as previously defined~~; or

$R^4$  represents a group of formula  $-(CH_2)_m-O-(CO)-R^{10}$  in which  $m$  represents an integer 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, in which  $R^{10}$  represents a  $C_{1-12}$ alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, hydroxy, or amino groups or  $R^{10}$  represents a group of formula  $-(CH_2)_qR^9$  in which  $q$  and  $R^9$  is as previously described; or

$R^4$  represents a group of formula  $CONR^{11}R^{12}$  in which  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  independently represent H or a  $C_{1-8}$ alkyl group or a  $C_{1-8}$ alkyl group substituted by one or more hydroxy groups, provided that at least one of  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  is a hydroxy $C_{1-8}$ alkyl group; or

$R^4$  represents a group of formula  $-L^2CN$  in which  $L^2$  represents a  $C_{1-6}$ alkylene chain.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 represented by formula IIa:



IIa

wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  independently represent phenyl optionally independently substituted by halo or pyridyl,

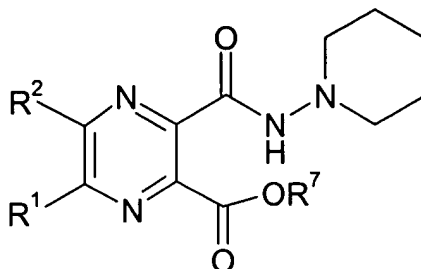
$R^4$  represents a  $C_{4-8}$ alkyl group, a group  $CH_2OR^8$  in which  $R^8$  is a  $C_{4-8}$ alkyl group, or a group  $CO_2R^7$  in which  $R^7$  represents a  $C_{4-8}$ alkyl group, and

$Y$  represents  $NH$ ; and  $R^5$  represents H and  $R^6$  represents perfluorophenyl or phenyl optionally substituted by trifluoromethyl; or  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  together with the nitrogen to which they are attached represent piperidino, morpholino or piperazino, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl groups, hydroxy, fluoro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, benzyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl or an amino group  $-NR^xR^y$  in which  $R^x$  and  $R^y$  independently represent H or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

or  $Y$  is absent; and  $R^5$  represents H or a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl group optionally substituted by amino[[:]] and  $R^6$  represents tetrahydropyranyl or 4-piperidinyl optionally substituted by one or more  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl groups, hydroxy, fluoro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, benzyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl or an amino group  $-NR^xR^y$  in which  $R^x$  and  $R^y$  independently represent H or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl or a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl group optionally substituted by amino; or  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  together with the nitrogen

to which they are attached represent piperidino, morpholino or piperazino, each of which is optionally substituted by C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl or fluoro.

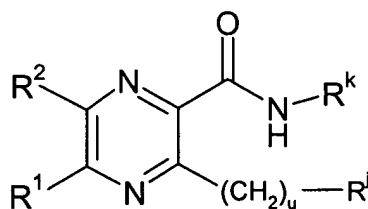
3. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 represented by formula IIb:



IIb

wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> represent phenyl independently optionally substituted by one or more chloro;  
and  
R<sup>7</sup> represents butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclohexyl or benzyl.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 represented by formula IIc:



IIc

wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> represent phenyl independently optionally substituted by one or more chloro  
or methyl;

u is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R<sup>j</sup> represents triazolyl, tetrazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, oxazinolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, azolactonyl or azetidinyll each of which is optionally substituted by one or more of the following: morpholinyl, piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, a C<sub>1-3</sub>alkylthio group, a C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl group, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkoxy, hydroxy, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, or a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more of the following: C<sub>1-3</sub>alkoxy, hydroxy, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidinyl or pyrrolidinyl, or a group of formula CH(X)R<sup>p</sup>R<sup>q</sup> in which X is

hydroxy, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy group, difluoromethoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidinyl or pyrrolidinyl, R<sup>p</sup> represents hydrogen, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group or a C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl group and R<sup>q</sup> represents hydrogen, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group or a C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl group or R<sup>j</sup> represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy group terminally substituted on carbon by one or more fluoro; and

R<sup>k</sup> represents piperidino, 4,4-difluorocyclohexyl or C<sub>3-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy.

5. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 4,  
in which R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> represent phenyl independently optionally substituted by one or more chloro or methyl;

R<sup>j</sup> represents triazolyl or tetrazolyl each of which is optionally substituted by one or more of the following: a C<sub>1-3</sub>alkylthio group, a C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more of the following: C<sub>1-3</sub>alkoxy, hydroxy, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidinyl or pyrrolidinyl, or a group of formula CH(X)R<sup>p</sup>R<sup>q</sup> in which X is hydroxy, difluoromethoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, amino C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidinyl or pyrrolidinyl, R<sup>p</sup> represents hydrogen, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group or a C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl group and R<sup>q</sup> represents hydrogen, a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group or a C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl group or R<sup>j</sup> represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy group terminally substituted on carbon by one or more fluoro; and u is 0 or 1; and

R<sup>k</sup> represents piperidino, 4,4-difluorocyclohexyl or C<sub>3-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy.

6. (currently amended) A compound selected from ~~one or more of the following~~:

*tert*-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

cyclohexyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

benzyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

*tert*-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-([cis-2-hydroxycyclohexylamino]carbonyl)-pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

*tert*-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-([trans-2-hydroxycyclohexylamino]carbonyl)-pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-({2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]hydrazino}carbonyl)-pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(morpholin-4-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-({2-[4-(tert-butylhydrazino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate};

3-(tert-butoxymethyl)-5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide; 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(cyclohexylidenemethyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(cyanomethyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(1-methoxyethyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{{(2-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)amino}carbonyl}-pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{{[(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)amino]carbonyl}pyrazine-2-carboxylate};

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(pentylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{{[(1-ethylpropyl)amino]carbonyl}pyrazine-2-carboxylate};

tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{{[(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)amino]carbonyl}-pyrazine-2-carboxylate};

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-piperidin-1-yl-3-[(4-propyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)methyl]pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{{[4-(1-hydroxyethyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]methyl}-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide};

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{{[5-(1-hydroxyethyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]methyl}-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide};

tert-butyl {[1-({5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazin-2-yl}methyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]methyl}carbamate;

tert-butyl {[1-({5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazin-2-yl}methyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl]methyl}carbamate;

3-{{[4-(aminomethyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]methyl}-5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide};

3- {[5-(aminomethyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]methyl}-5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(phenoxymethyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(morpholin-4-ylmethyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(piperidin-1-ylmethyl)-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(cyclohex-2-en-1-yloxy)methyl]-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(cyclohexyloxy)methyl]-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N'-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2,3-dicarboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(3-hydroxybutyl)-N'-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2,3-dicarboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(3-hydroxypropyl)-N'-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2,3-dicarboxamide;

*Tert*-butyl 5,6-bis(4-methylphenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

5,6-bis(4-methylphenyl)-N-piperidin-1-yl-3-(1H-tetrazol-1-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-methylphenyl)-N-piperidin-1-yl-3-(2H-tetrazol-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-piperidin-1-yl-3-(2H-tetrazol-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-piperidin-1-yl-3-(1H-tetrazol-1-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)-3-(2H-tetrazol-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)-3-(2H-tetrazol-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(2-methoxyethoxy)methyl]-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(5-cyclopropyl-2H-tetrazol-2-yl)methyl]-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(5-cyclopropyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)methyl]-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(5-methyl-2H-tetrazol-2-yl)methyl]-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)methyl]-N-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

*tert*-butyl 6-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;



*tert*-butyl 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-(4-methylphenyl)-3-[(piperidin-1-ylamino)carbonyl]pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

6-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-*N*-piperidin-1-yl-3-(2*H*-tetrazol-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-(4-methylphenyl)-*N*-piperidin-1-yl-3-(2*H*-tetrazol-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

*tert*-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}pyrazine-2-carboxylate;

5,6-bis(4-chloro-phenyl)-3-propoxy-pyrazine-2-carboxylic acid piperidin-1-ylamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-piperidin-1-yl-3-(2*H*-tetrazol-5-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-piperidin-1-yl-3-(1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(5-morpholin-4-yl-2*H*-tetrazol-2-yl)methyl]-*N*-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(5-morpholin-4-yl-1*H*-tetrazol-1-yl)methyl]-*N*-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-piperidin-1-yl-3-[(5-pyrrolidin-1-yl-2*H*-tetrazol-2-yl)methyl]pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-piperidin-1-yl-3-[(5-pyrrolidin-1-yl-1*H*-tetrazol-1-yl)methyl]pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{[5-(methylthio)-2*H*-tetrazol-2-yl)methyl]-*N*-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-{[5-(methylthio)-1*H*-tetrazol-1-yl)methyl]-*N*-piperidin-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)-3-(methoxymethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)-3-{[(4-fluorobenzyl)oxy]methyl}pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-[(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)methyl]-*N*-piperidine-1-ylpyrazine-2-carboxamide;

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)-3-[(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)methyl]pyrazine-2-carboxamide; or

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)-3-(methoxymethyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide;

~~and~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt ~~salts~~ thereof.

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of any one of claims 1-4 or 6 ~~formula I, as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

9. (cancelled)

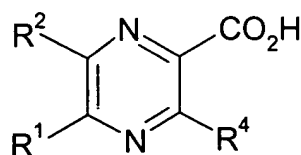
10. (currently amended) A method of treating obesity, psychiatric disorders, psychotic disorders, schizophrenia and bipolar disorders, anxiety, anxio-depressive disorders, depression, cognitive disorders, memory disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, anorexia, bulimia, attention disorders, epilepsy, and related conditions, neurological disorders, neurological disorders, Parkinson's Disease, Huntington's Chorea and Alzheimer's Disease, immune, cardiovascular, reproductive and endocrine disorders, septic shock, diseases related to the respiratory and gastrointestinal system, and extended abuse, addiction and/or relapse indications, comprising administering a pharmacologically effective amount of a compound of ~~formula I~~ according to claim 1 to a patient in need thereof.

11. (currently amended) A method for compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 for use in the treatment of obesity comprising administering a pharmacologically effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1-4 or 6 to a patient in need thereof.

12. (currently amended) A composition comprising a compound of claim 1 or 6 as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 in combination with another pharmaceutically active ~~active~~ compound.

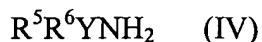
13. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of ~~to prepare~~ a compound of ~~formula I~~ according to claim 1 comprising:

a) reacting a compound of formula III;



III

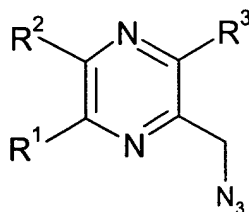
in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup>~~ are as previously defined with an amine of formula IV:



or a salt thereof, in which ~~Y, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>~~ are as previously defined in a solvent, in the presence of a coupling agent and optionally in the presence of a base at a temperature in the range of -25°C to 150°C

to give compounds of formula I provide a compound of claim 1 in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup>~~ are as previously defined and R<sup>3</sup> is COYNR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> as previously defined, or

b) reacting a compound ~~an azide~~ of formula XI:



XI

in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>~~ are as previously defined with a compound ~~an acetylene~~ of formula XII:



XII

~~in which Z is as previously defined~~ in an inert solvent and optionally in the presence of a catalyst at a temperature in the range of -25°C to 150°C to give compounds of formula I provide a compound of claim 1 in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>~~ are as previously defined and R<sup>4</sup> represents a group CH<sub>2</sub>(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl) in which the triazole is optionally substituted on carbon by Z; or

c) reacting a compound of formula XIV:



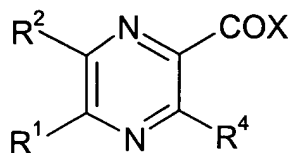
XIV

in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as previously defined~~ and R<sup>e</sup> represents an alkyl group,  
with an amine of formula IV:



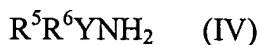
or a salt thereof, ~~in which Y, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are as previously defined~~ in a solvent in the presence of a coupling agent and optionally in an inert atmosphere at a temperature in the range of -25°C to 150°C to ~~give compounds of formula I~~ provide a compound of claim 1 in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as previously defined~~ and R<sup>3</sup> is COYNR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>; or

d) reacting a compound of formula XV:



XV

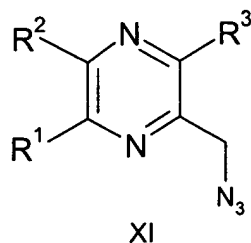
in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as previously defined~~ and X represents a leaving group,  
with an amine of formula IV:



or a salt thereof, ~~in which Y, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are as previously defined~~ in a solvent optionally in the presence of a base at a temperature in the range of -25°C to 150°C to ~~give compounds of formula I~~ provide a compound of claim 1 in which ~~R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as previously defined~~ and R<sup>3</sup> is COYNR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>; or

d) e) ~~de-protecting compounds of formula I~~ a compound of claim 1, in which one or more groups is protected, to ~~give compounds of formula I~~ provide a compound of claim 1.

14. A compound of formula XI



in which  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are as previously defined

$R^1$  and  $R^2$  independently represent phenyl, thienyl or pyridyl each of which is independently optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z;

Z represents a  $C_{1-8}$ alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more: hydroxy; a  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy group optionally substituted by one or more fluoro; a  $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl group; a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur; or by a group  $NR^{10}R^{11}$  (in which  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  independently represent hydrogen, a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl group or a  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonyl group), or Z represents a  $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy group (optionally substituted by one or more fluoro), hydroxy, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethylthio, trifluoromethylsulphonyl, nitro, a group  $NR^{10}R^{11}$  (in which  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  independently represent hydrogen, a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl group or a  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonyl group), mono or di  $C_{1-3}$ alkylamido,  $C_{1-3}$ alkylthio,  $C_{1-3}$ alkylsulphonyl,  $C_{1-3}$ alkylsulphonyloxy,  $C_{1-3}$ alkoxycarbonyl, carboxy, cyano, carbamoyl, mono or di  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl carbamoyl, sulphamoyl, acetyl, an aromatic heterocyclic group which is optionally substituted by one or more halo,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy, or Z represents a saturated or partially unsaturated 5-to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl, hydroxy, fluoro, benzyl or an amino group  $-NR^xR^y$  in which  $R^x$  and  $R^y$  independently represent H or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl ;

$R^3$  represents a group of formula  $X-Y-NR^5R^6$  in which X is CO or  $SO_2$  and Y is absent or represents NH optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl group and  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  independently represent: a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy; an (amino) $C_{1-4}$ alkyl- group in which the amino is optionally substituted by one or more  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl groups; a group  $(C_{3-12}cycloalkyl)(CH_2)_g$  wherein g is 0, 1, 2, or 3, and wherein the

cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, hydroxy, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy; a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>r</sub>(phenyl)<sub>s</sub> in which r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and s is 1 when r is 0, otherwise s is 1 or 2, and the phenyl groups are optionally independently substituted by one or more groups represented by Z; naphthyl; anthracenyl; a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, hydroxy, fluoro, trifluoromethyl, benzyl or an amino group -NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup> in which R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> independently represent H or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl; 1-adamantylmethyl; a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>Het in which t is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, and the alkylene chain is optionally substituted by one or more C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl groups and Het represents an aromatic heterocyclic group optionally substituted by one, two or three groups selected from a C<sub>1-5</sub>alkyl group, a C<sub>1-5</sub>alkoxy group or halo; or R<sup>5</sup> represents H and R<sup>6</sup> is as defined above; or R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one nitrogen and optionally one of the following: oxygen, sulphur or an additional nitrogen; wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, hydroxy, fluoro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, benzyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl or an amino group -NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup> in which R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> independently represent H or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl.